

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DATE DISTR. 8 MAR 51

SUBJECT The Kopaonik Zinc and Lead Mine

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1. The Kopaonik Mine is located in the village of Novo Brdo on Kopaonik mountain in Serbia. The mine is rich in zinc, lead and silver ore. . daily output of approximately 300 tons is being increased steadily but primitive installations and technical mismanagement cause frequent casualties among the miners. Approximately 500 workers, unskilled miners, are employed, but their morale and efficiency is poor. About 175 people are on forced labor.
2. The electric plant in Zvecan provides electricity for the mine and underground acetylene lamps are in use. Cranes are of British pre-war manufacture and there is one old compressor of German make. There are two digging tunnels more than 300 meters deep. Excavated ore is transported in horse-drawn vehicles to a bunker where it is stored for further transportation to Lesak along an eleven kilometer funicular. The ore is forwarded from Lesak to a processing plant in Zvecan by rail.
3. Administrative personnel total thirty. Engineer Stevovic is the Technical Director while Ivan Tarle directs administration and Milos Radosavljevic is the political leader. Salaries are relatively good at the mine: from 600 to 10,000 dinars a month. But the food is poor and miners and administrative personnel receive the same food, despite differences in their entitled rations. The cooperative shop is without textiles.
4. The mine is guarded by twenty militiamen, armed with rifles of German manufacture.

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